

State Senator • Deb Cherry news 03/06



For the Constituents of the 26th District

A Note From Senator Cherry

During the past year, Michigan has had to struggle with difficult economic events which have affected so many of our citizens. The Governor's and Legislature's "Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow" program will help us overcome these difficulties. We have just seen one of the benefits of "Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow" when GM announced investments they will be making in Michigan plants, including Pontiac.

As Michigan begins the road to economic recovery, I look forward to my work as a member of the Appropriations Committee. The Governor's budget continues to focus on strengthening the economy, as well as increasing funding for Michigan schools and institutions of higher learning and expanding access to health care. I look forward to a budget that continues to strengthen our economy.

I also look forward to working on important issues pending before the Legislature such as affordable health care, attracting and protecting good paying jobs and protecting our vital natural resources.

I value your comments on these issues. Your input can make a difference in the way we govern. I continue to be your voice and advocate in the State Legislature

Deb Cherry

How To Contact Me

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Deb Cherry**

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Governor's Plan Focuses on Jobs Today and Tomorrow

In her State of the State Address, Governor Jennifer Granholm outlined a comprehensive plan for Michigan's future aimed at putting people back to work and diversifying our state's economy. "Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow" is a bold \$6 billion plan to attract jobs to Michigan today and for years to come.

A few months ago, the Legislature approved a bipartisan \$600 million tax-cut package that is aimed at helping manufacturers keep jobs in Michigan. These tax

cuts will help make businesses like Delphi, Ford, and GM more competitive in today's global economy. If companies such as these decide to consolidate in Michigan in the next two years, there will be zero taxes on their personal property. Gov. Granholm's objective is to get businesses to continue investing in Michigan and, as a result, provide jobs for workers here in Michigan today and in the future.

Another important component of Gov. Granholm's "Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow"

plan is the "21st Century Jobs Fund." It is the largest investment to diversify our economy in the state's history and received nearly unanimous bipartisan support. More than \$2 billion, in public and private money, will be invested to create tens of thousands of jobs in high-tech industries, life sciences, homeland security and defense and alternative energy. Members of the Strategic Economic Investment and Commercialization Board (SEIC) will oversee the

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Budget Reflects Commitment to Education

Governor Jennifer Granholm's proposed Executive Budget for fiscal year 2006-07 reflects her commitment to education, by recommending significant funding increases for K-12 and higher education. Under Gov. Granholm's proposed spending plan, school districts would get at least \$7,075 per student next school year. That's an increase of \$200 per student, which is 2.8% more than districts currently receive. This would raise the K-12 school aid budget by more than \$360 million, or nearly 3%. State universities and community colleges will receive nearly \$30 million in additional operational funding.

Gov. Granholm would also like to allot an additional \$36.5 million to the Great Start preschool program, so that she can add 8,000 more 4-year-olds to the program, which currently has 25,000 students. This spring, Gov. Granholm wants lawmakers

to adopt a tougher high school curriculum. In her budget, she has slated \$15 million for after-school or summer programs in math, science and computer technology to help middle school students get prepared for the new curriculum.

Once again, Gov. Granholm has submitted a balanced budget that includes no general tax

increases. I will work hard to adopt this budget which invests so strongly in our children's future.

The proposed spending plan for the next fiscal year is the beginning of a negotiating process between the Governor's office and the State Legislature. I will keep you posted as the process unfolds.



State Park Reservations Going Fast, Plan Now

If you're thinking about spending part of your summer vacation enjoying the outdoors at a state park campground, it's not too early to start making reservations. According to officials at the Department of Natural Resources, reservations for early summer are already up 1.2% from this time last year. Because of the increased demand, they are urging Michigan residents and visitors to plan their vacations now. You're allowed to make site reservations up to six months in advance.

In addition to beautiful campsites, there are state park campgrounds throughout Michigan that also offer exciting

activities for campers. Some of the events include the following:

July 2, 2006 – Algonac State Park hosts its 19th Annual Classic Car Show; Marine City, MI

July 4, 2006 – Van Riper State Park's Kids Bike Parade; Champion, MI

July 29, 2006 – Seven Lakes State Park Balloon Fest; Holly, MI

August 5-6, 2006 – Fort Wilkins Historic State Park's Battery "D" Civil War Re-Enactment; Copper Harbor, MI

August 11-13, 2006 – Lakeport State Park's Horseshoe Tournament; Lakeport, MI

August 13, 2006 – Sleepy Hollow State Park's Lansing Legislature Triathlon; Laingsburg, MI (20 min. north of Lansing)

August 19, 2006 – Bay City Recreation Area's Camping Fun Day; Bay City, MI

These are just a few of the events scheduled at state parks around the state this summer. For a complete list of other events, days, and times, you can log onto the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) website at www.michigan.gov/dnr. This website also has information on how to make reservations at any state park campground.

Governor's Plan *Continued from page 1*

distribution of Jobs Fund grants and resources to entrepreneurs in Michigan. In January, the Jobs Fund issued a request for proposals. By this summer, entrepreneurs and start-up

companies throughout the state should begin receiving the first round of 21st Century Jobs Grants they need to succeed.

"Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow" encourages

businesses to create jobs in Michigan so our children will have great career opportunities in their future.

Genesee & Oakland County Tax Preparation Sites

Listed below are convenient tax preparation sites for seniors.

Genesee County

Burton Senior Citizens Center

3410 S. Grand Traverse St.
Flint, MI 48529
Tuesdays 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
February 7 – April 11
810-744-0960
Appointment Only; E-File

Clio Area Senior Center

2080 W. Vienna Rd.
Clio, MI 48420
Tuesdays 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
February 7 – April 11
810-687-7260
Appointment Only; E-File

Clio Senior Apartments

11535 Plaza Dr.
Clio, MI 48420
810-686-4300
Residents Only; Appointment Only

Davison Senior Center

334 Main St.
Davison, MI 48423
Wednesdays 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
February 1 – April 12
810-658-1566
Appointment Only; E-File

Forest Township Hall

130 E. Main St.
Otisville, MI 48463
Tuesdays 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
February 7 – April 11
810-631-4997
Appointment Only

Grand Blanc Senior Center

12632 Pagels Dr.
Grand Blanc, MI 48439
Wednesdays 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
February 1 – April 12
810-695-3202
Appointment Only; E-File

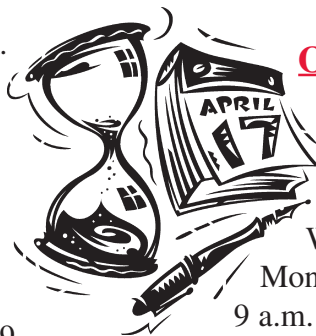
Krapol Senior Center

5472G Bicentennial Dr.
Mount Morris, MI 48458
Mondays, Tuesdays, and
Wednesdays
1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
February 1 – April 12
810-785-2270
Appointment Only; E-File

Oakland County

Waterford Senior Center

6455 Harper Dr.
Waterford, MI 48329
Monday – Friday
9 a.m. – 12 noon
January 30 – April 14
248-623-6500
Appointment Only; E-File



2006 Monthly Office Hours

Please join me at my 2006 monthly office hours. This is an opportunity for you to share concerns and questions.

Grand Blanc

Grand Blanc City Hall
203 E. Grand Blanc Rd.

First Monday of the Month:

April 3, 2006

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

May 1, 2006

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

June 5, 2006

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Clio

Clio City Hall
Commission Chambers
505 W. Vienna St.

Friday, May 12, 2006

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Thetford Township

Thetford Township Hall
Rec Hall
4014 E. Vienna Rd.

Friday, April 28, 2006

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Waterford

Waterford Township Hall
Third Floor Conference Room
5200 Civic Center Dr.

Third Friday of Month, from
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.:

March 17, 2006

April 21, 2006

May 19, 2006

June 16, 2006

July 21, 2006

August 18, 2006

September 15, 2006

October 20, 2006

Forest Township

Forest Township Hall
130 E. Main St.

Friday, March 10, 2006

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Friday, June 9, 2006

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Davison

Davison City Hall
Council Chambers
200 E. Flint St.

March 27, 2006

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

April 24, 2006

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

May 15, 2006

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

June 26, 2006

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.





**State Senator
Deb Cherry**

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2006 Hunter Safety Program

I will sponsor my 10th Annual Hunters Safety Program with class lessons on Monday, **May 1** and Wednesday, **May 3, 6 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**, at **Grand Blanc High School Cafeteria**. Range lessons will be held Saturday, **May 6, 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon** at the **Grand Blanc Huntsman's Club**.

According to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, hunter safety education is required under the following circumstances:

- Hunter safety education is required if an individual was born after January 1, 1960.
- A hunter safety certificate or previous hunting license is

required to purchase any Michigan hunting license.

- Hunters anticipating an out-of-state hunting trip need to obtain a certificate prior to their trip; most states require hunters to carry their certificate when hunting and hunters need it to purchase a license.

Please call my office toll-free at **866-305-2126** to register for this free program or register on my website at **www.senate.mi.gov/cherry**.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR Town Hall Meeting Scheduled

I am hosting a very important Town Hall meeting this Spring. This event is free to the public and does not require a reservation. I hope you will plan on attending.

Monday, March 27, 2006

6:30 p.m.

Covert Center

1150 Scott Lake Road • Waterford, MI

Topic: "Water Legacy"

with special guest
State Senator Liz Brater

E-mail Newsletter Available

I am currently sending out periodic e-mail newsletters to keep you informed about what's going on in Lansing, as well as other important information from around the state. If you would like to receive this newsletter, please send your e-mail address to:

sendcherry@senate.michigan.gov

and I'll be sure to add you to our mailing list. Please also visit my State Senate website,

www.senate.mi.gov/cherry,

which will keep you up to date on my activities in Lansing as well as in the district.